

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NICOSI 00759 211432Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /050 W  
-----071461 211437Z /46

O R 211420Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7476  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0759

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY  
SUBJECT: GOC SENSITIVITY TO USE OF ERCAN AIRPORT

REF: NICOSIA 737

1. SENSITIVITY OF GOC TO USE OF "ILLEGAL" ERCAN AIRPORT WAS HEIGHTENED THIS WEEK BY VISIT TO TURKISH ZONE OF FIVE-MAN DELEGATION OF BRITISH PARLIAMENTARIANS ON FACT-FINDING MISSION. MP'S ARRIVED MARCH 18 AT ERCAN AND PLAN TO DEPART SAME WAY AFTER SIX DAYS. GOC HAD LEARNED OF MP'S PLANNED TRIP AND USE OF ERCAN FROM ITS SOURCES IN LONDON SOME DAYS BEFORE VISIT TOOK PLACE AND HAD RAISED OBJECTIONS WITH UK HIGH COMMISSION HERE (WHICH WAS FIRST UKHC HAD HEARD OF VISIT). WHEN VISIT MATERIALIZED IN SPITE OF GOC OBJECTIONS, GOC FILED FORMAL PROTEST WITH UKHC MAR 17.

2. MARCH 21 GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS TREATMENT OF VISIT WAS HARSH. MASS CIRCULATION PHILELEFTHEROS DEMANDED A CLEAR APOLOGY FROM UK. LEFTIST TA NEA CHARACTERIZED OFFICIAL UK ARGUMENT THAT MP'S WERE CONFIDENTIAL

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TRAVELING PRIVATELY AS "HYPOCRISY AND FRAUD."  
PRO-GOVERNMENT ELEFTHERI KYPROS SAID VISIT WAS "CYNICAL POLITICAL PROVOCATION." PRESS ALSO REPORTS THAT, IN ADDITION TO FORMAL PROTEST MADE BY GOC TO UK HIGH COMMISSION HERE, CYPRIOT HC IN LONDON WILL DELIVER PROTEST TO HMG THERE.

3. OFFICER OF UKHC HERE HAS TOLD US THAT GOC WAS  
"QUITE UNHAPPY" WITH MP'S USE OF ERCAN AND WOULD NOT  
ACCEPT ARGUMENT THAT VISIT WAS PRIVATE. THIS OFFICER  
BELIEVES GOC PROTEST AND PRESS CRITICISM WOULD HAVE  
BEEN EVEN STRONGER WERE IT NOT FOR FACT THAT UK  
STANDING WITH GOC RIGHT NOW IS RELATIVELY HIGH. HE  
POINTS OUT THAT GOC IS HIGHLY SENSITIZED TO ERCAN  
ISSUE BECAUSE OF VISITS BY BELGIAN AND BRITISH  
PARLIAMENTARY DELAGATIONS.  
CRAWFORD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LANDING RIGHTS, AIRPORTS, TRAVEL CONTROLS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978NICOSI00759  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 NICOSIA 737  
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**Subject:** GOC SENSITIVITY TO USE OF ERCAN AIRPORT  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PEPR, CY, TU  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014